

**Abstract**

A method for treating a wellbore (or well casing) and the contiguous wellbore area to remove scale (mineral deposits comprised of, e.g.,  $\text{BaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , etc.) in the context of hydrocarbon recovery and other applications is disclosed, said method including contacting the scale with a fluid comprised of an ionic liquid or liquids.